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News Release

3-TIME DEPORTED ALIEN SENTENCED TO 8½ YEARS IN PRISON

DENVER — A three-time deported illegal alien from Mexico was sentenced Thursday to 102 months in federal prison, following an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and prosecution by the office of U.S. Attorney Bill Leone, District of Colorado.

Isidro Palomino-Garcia, 36, was sentenced in the U.S. District Court of Colorado for Illegal Re-Entry of an Aggravated Felon. He was sentenced to 84 months in prison on this conviction, and another 18 months for violating the terms of his probation from a previous conviction for re-entry after deportation. The sentences are to run consecutively.

Palomino-Garcia was first convicted in November 1996 in New Mexico for auto burglary, and was sentenced to 18 months in prison. After he served his sentence, he was ordered deported to Mexico by a federal immigration judge in June 1998. He was deported to Mexico the same day.

In August 2000 Palomino-Garcia was then convicted in Colorado for re-entering the U.S. after his deportation. He was sentenced to 37 months in prison. His original deportation orders were reinstituted, and he was again deported in February 2002. He was then convicted in March 2004 in Arizona for possessing drug paraphernalia, and escape in the second degree; he was sentenced to three years probation. He was deported for the third time in June 2004. Re-entering the United States after having been deported is a felony punishable by up to 20 years in prison.

In June 2005 Palomino-Garcia was convicted in Colorado for vehicular eluding, and sentenced to one year in prison.

"This criminal alien will spend the next 8½ years in prison for flagrantly and repeatedly violating our laws," said Jeffrey Copp, special agent-in-charge of the ICE Denver office. "We will continue to work closely with the U.S. Attorney's office to prosecute criminal aliens and remove them from our communities, and from the country. Copp heads the ICE Office of Investigations for the states of: Colorado, Wyoming, Montana and Idaho.

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U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.